

Routine
PRECEDENCE

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FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM//TOSCO 33 //

TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT

INFO:

DEX _____

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GPS _____

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PAGES 1

TTY _____

CITE _____

DTG: 130004Z

RELEASED BY: DN

TOR: 130150Z/44

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

TOSCO 33

Opening of Business

75 AUG 12 PM 10:06
1975 AUG 13 00 00

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 12, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT
FROM: MARGI VANDERHYE *MVG*
SUBJECT: Rustand Comments on Solzhenitsyn

I drafted the following Q&A and with Bud's clearance dictated the material to the Press Office, Vail, at 7:15 p.m. EDT.

- Q: Would you comment on reports suggesting that President Ford's Appointment's Secretary Warren Rustand stated that recent White House snubbing of Alexander Solzhenitsyn was the result of an agreement by the United States not to exploit the poet's departure should the Soviets permit it.
- A: We have seen these reports. If you check further you will determine that these reports do not accurately reflect Mr. Rustand's statements.
- Q: Mr. Rustand's statements notwithstanding, are the facts of the report accurate?
- A: We can state *categorically* that there were no such arrangements.
- Q: How can you be sure?
- A: To be certain, we have reviewed the records of meetings and discussions between U.S. and Soviet officials at the time of the poet's expulsion. We found no evidence that an arrangement of any kind was ever even discussed on Alexander Solzhenitsyn's departure from the Soviet Union.